

- (c) whether India and Bangladesh have signed Extradition treaty;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the said treaty;
- (e) whether both the countries have also revised travel arrangements between the two countries; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which citizens of both the countries will be benefited by the such agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (f) In the Home Minister level Talks held between India and Bangladesh on 28th- 29th January 2013 at Dhaka, security and border management related issues were discussed. Both sides reiterated their commitment to act against the elements inimical to both countries. Besides, issues relating to cross-border terrorism, handing over of leaders of India insurgent Groups (IIGs) reportedly staying in Bangladesh and also action against their camps/ hideouts, smuggling of arms ammunitions, fake currency notes etc. were discussed. In so far as Border Management Issues are concerned, issue of strengthening of security along Indo-Bangladesh border and erection of fencing in vulnerable patches were also discussed. Both sides agreed to implement Coordinated Border Management Plan (CBMP) expeditiously to curb the illegal cross-border movement. Among other issues, measures to check trafficking in women and children, smuggling of drugs and capacity building of law enforcement activities etc. were discussed. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in security related issues and other areas of mutual interest.

During the Home Minister level talks held in Dhaka in January, 2013 Extradition Treaty and also Revised Travel Arrangement were signed between the two countries. The Extradition Treaty will provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of fugitive criminals between the Contracting States while the Revised Travel Arrangement would promote greater, people to people exchanges.

Illegal immigrants in North East States

389. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that North East (NE) States are being flooded with illegal immigrants;

- (b) whether the issue has been raised by certain individuals and agencies;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the status of current illegal immigrants living in the NE States; and
- (e) the steps that have been initiated to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) There are no such reports which indicate any large scale illegal immigration. However, there are reports of some illegal infiltration/immigration of Bangladeshi nationals who manage to infiltrate into the country in spite of checks and control at the international border, particularly through few patches where fencing is not feasible due to difficult terrain and riverine areas.

Government has taken steps for strengthening of the Border Security Force and equipping them with modern equipment, reduction of gaps between the border posts and intensified patrolling along Indo-Bangladesh border. The border fence along the Bangladesh border is being strengthened and a scheme for flood lighting along the border is being implemented. The issue of illegal migrants from Bangladesh is regularly taken up at various fora and steps have been taken for coordinated patrolling, identification of vulnerable gaps, strengthening of riverine patrolling etc. Government of Bangladesh has also been urged to take effective steps to check the illegal movement of their nationals into India, especially through vulnerable and riverine areas. The strengthening of security and erection of fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border has helped in curbing illegal migration from Bangladesh to India effectively.

The powers of identification and deportation of illegally staying foreign nationals including Bangladeshi nationals have been delegated to the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. Thirty Six (36) Foreigners Tribunals including additional four (4) Foreigners Tribunals sanctioned in August, 2009 are set up for detection of foreigners/illegal migrants in the State of Assam.

Erratic power supply to SIEN

390. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: